

Remarks

The specification has been amended to include benefit claims to two additional U.S. provisional patent applications. A Petition to Accept an Unintentionally Delayed Claim Under Rule 1.78(a) is enclosed herewith. Claims 1-27 are pending.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-14 and 16-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ozzie et al. ("Ozzie") (U.S. Patent No. 6,640,241). This rejection and all suggestions and assertions made by the Office in association with the rejection are traversed.

Applicant has amended the specification to include a benefit claim to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/117,226 (the "226 provisional application") filed on January 26, 1999. Applicant respectfully submits that, for example, pages 19-23 of the 226 provisional application support the claimed invention. Applicant further respectfully submits that Ozzie was filed on July 19, 1999, and therefore, due to the earlier priority date of the present patent application, Ozzie is not proper prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). As a result, Applicant respectfully requests that the section 102 rejection be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozzie. This rejection and all suggestions and assertions made by the Office in association with the rejection are traversed. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 15 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the section 103 rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and therefore respectfully request a notice of allowance. Accordingly, a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. In the event a telephone

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conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 774-6927. If any additional fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. ADAPP085A2). A copy of the transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,
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